

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a first elevation;

a second set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation; and

wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

2. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 1, wherein said first set of coil springs has lower surfaces at a third elevation, said second set of coil springs having lower surfaces at a fourth elevation that is offset from said third elevation.

3. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 1, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first height, said second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 1,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a first elevation;

a second set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation; and

wherein said first set of coil springs has a first height, said second set of coil springs having a second height that is substantially equal to said first height; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 1,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a first elevation;  
a second set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation; and  
wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket; and  
wherein said first set of coil springs has a first pocketed height, said second set of coil springs having a second pocketed height that is different from said first pocketed height; and  
wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

6. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile.

7. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 1, wherein said first set of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile defining a convex side surface, said second set of coil springs having an hourglass-shaped outer profile defining a concave side surface, and wherein said convex side surface of one of said barrel-shaped coil springs is positioned proximate said concave side surface of one of said hourglass-shaped coil springs.

8. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 7, wherein said first set of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile defining a first outer coil diameter, said second set of coil springs having a barrel-shaped outer profile defining a second outer coil diameter that is different from said first outer coil diameter.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 1,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a first elevation;  
a second set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation; and

wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs is pre-loaded to a compressed state; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

10. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~4~~ 9, wherein said first set of coil springs is pre-loaded to a first compressed state, said second set of coil springs being pre-loaded to a second compressed state, and wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness.

11. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein said at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs is heat-tempered prior to being pre-loaded to said compressed state.

12. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 10, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is substantially equal to said first uncompressed height.

13. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 12, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first compressed height when in said first compressed state, said second set of coil springs having a second compressed height when in said second compressed state that is different than said first compressed height.

14. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 10, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is different than said first uncompressed height.

15. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 14, wherein said first set of coil springs

has a first compressed height when in said first compressed state, said second set of coil springs having a second compressed height when in said second compressed state that is substantially equal to said first compressed height.

16. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 10, wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket to maintain each of said coil springs in said compressed state.

17. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 16, wherein said first and second sets of coil springs have a substantially uniform pocketed height.

18. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 16, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first pocketed height, said second set of coil springs having a second pocketed height that is different than said first pocketed height.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 1, further comprising~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a first elevation;

a second set of coil springs having upper surfaces at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation; and

at least one additional set of coils springs having upper surfaces at a third elevation offset from said first and second elevations; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

20. (Currently Amended) An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having a first height;

a second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height;

and

wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 20, further comprising~~  
An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having a first height;

a second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height;

and

at least one additional set of coils springs having another height that is different from said first and second heights; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 20,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having a first height;

a second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height;

and

wherein said first set of coil springs is pre-loaded to a first compressed state, said second set of coil springs being pre-loaded to a second compressed state, and wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

23. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 22, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is substantially equal to said

first uncompressed height.

24. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 22, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is different than said first uncompressed height.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~25~~ 27, wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs is heat-tempered prior to being pre-loaded to said compressed state.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 25,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs pre-loaded to a first compressed state;

a second set of coil springs pre-loaded to a second compressed state; and

wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is substantially equal to said first uncompressed height; and

wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness.

28. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~25~~ 33, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first compressed height when in said first compressed state, said second set of coil springs having a second compressed height when in said second compressed state that is different than said first compressed height.

29. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~25~~ 33, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first uncompressed height when in a relaxed state, said second set of coil springs having a second uncompressed height when in a relaxed state that is different than said first uncompressed height.

30. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 29, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first compressed height when in said first compressed state, said second set of coil springs having a second compressed height when in said second compressed state that is substantially equal to said first compressed height.

31. (Currently Amended) The innerspring assembly of claim ~~25~~ 35, wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket to maintain each of said coil springs in said compressed state.

32. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 31, wherein said first and second sets of coil springs have a substantially uniform pocketed height.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 31;~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs pre-loaded to a first compressed state;  
a second set of coil springs pre-loaded to a second compressed state; and  
wherein each of said coil springs are individually encased in a pocket to maintain each of said coil springs in said compressed state; and  
wherein said first set of coil springs has a first pocketed height, said second set of coil springs having a second pocketed height that is different than said first pocketed height; and  
wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 25;~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs pre-loaded to a first compressed state;  
a second set of coil springs pre-loaded to a second compressed state; and  
wherein said first set of coil springs has a first height, said second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the

innerspring assembly; and

wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 25,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs pre-loaded to a first compressed state;

a second set of coil springs pre-loaded to a second compressed state; and

wherein said first set of coil springs has an upper surface arranged at a first elevation, said second set of coil springs having an upper surface arranged at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly; and

wherein said first and second compressed states exhibit different degrees of firmness.

36. (Original) An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:

a first set of coil springs having a barrel-shaped outer profile defining a convex side surface;

a second set of coil springs having an hourglass-shaped outer profile defining a concave side surface; and

wherein said convex side surface of one of said barrel-shaped coil springs is positioned proximate said concave side surface of one of said hourglass-shaped coil springs.

37. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 36, wherein said convex side surface of said one of said barrel-shaped coil springs is positioned proximate said concave surface of at least two hourglass-shaped coil springs.

38. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 36, wherein said convex side surface of said one of said barrel-shaped coil springs is positioned proximate said concave surface of four of said hourglass-shaped coil springs.



39. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 36, wherein said first set of coil springs has a first height, said second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

40. (Original) The innerspring assembly of claim 36, wherein said first set of coil springs has an upper surface arranged at a first elevation, said second set of coil springs having an upper surface arranged at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 41,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs defining a first outer coil diameter;  
a second set of coil springs defining a second outer coil diameter; and  
wherein said first outer coil diameter of said first set of coil springs is different from said second outer coil diameter of said second set of coil springs; and

wherein said first set of coil springs has a first height, said second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

43. (Currently Amended) ~~The innerspring assembly of claim 41,~~ An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs defining a first outer coil diameter;  
a second set of coil springs defining a second outer coil diameter; and

wherein said first outer coil diameter of said first set of coil springs is different from said second outer coil diameter of said second set of coil springs; and

wherein said first set of coil springs has an upper surface arranged at a first elevation, said second set of coil springs having an upper surface arranged at a second elevation that is offset from said first elevation, and wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.

44. (New) The innerspring assembly of claim 42, wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile.

45. (New) The innerspring assembly of claim 44, wherein each of said first and second sets of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile.

46. (New) The innerspring assembly of claim 43, wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile.

47. (New) The innerspring assembly of claim 46, wherein each of said first and second sets of coil springs has a barrel-shaped outer profile.

48. (New) An innerspring assembly including at least two sets of coil springs, comprising:  
a first set of coil springs having a first height;  
a second set of coil springs having a second height that is different from said first height;  
and

wherein at least one of said first and second sets of coil springs is pre-loaded to a compressed state; and

wherein one of said first and second sets of coil springs is compressed upon initial loading of the innerspring assembly, each of said first and second sets of coil springs being compressed upon continued loading of the innerspring assembly.